

2019 USGA Major Rule Change of the Week...

Major Rule Change - *Time for search before a ball is lost*

Rule 18.2 - *Under rule 18.2, the time for a ball search (before the ball becomes lost) will be REDUCED from 5 minutes to 3 minutes.*

USGA "Reasons for Change"

- *Limiting the search period to 3 minutes is more consistent with the underlying principle that golf is to be played in a prompt and continuous way, without long pauses in play.*
- *In most cases, if the ball is going to be found, it will be found in the first 3 minutes. Although this change may increase lost balls, on average the overall impact should speed up play.*

[Click here to watch the USGA Video Explanation of Rule 18.2](#)



Each of these rules changes will take effect on January 1, 2019.

Our hope is to make as many golfers knowledgeable of the upcoming rules changes before the new year.

Good Luck & Play Well!

